

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 OMB-01 /077 W
-----151051Z 036842 /20

R 150600Z MAR 77
FM AMEMBASSY SANA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 667
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMCONSUL ASMARA
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY MUSCAT

C O N F I D E N T I A L SANA 1023

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, SU, YE, YS
SUBJECT: NUMAYRI TO MEET PRESIDENTS OF NORTH AND SOUTH YEMEN IN ADEN

REF: KHARTOUM 827

1. LOCAL PRESS ANNOUNCED MARCH 14 THAT PRESIDENT NUMAYRI WILL SHORTLY BE VISITING BOTH ADEN AND SANA WITH A VIEW "TO COORDINATING A COMMON POSITION TO INSURE THE SECURITY OF THE RED SEA".

2. IN CONVERSATION WITH SUDANESE AMBASSADOR ABD AL-AMJID BASHIR AL-AHMADI ON MARCH 13, HE TOLD ME THAT HE HAD BEEN "SUDDENLY" REQUESTED TO RETURN TO KHARTOUM ON MARCH 14 TO ACCOMPANY PRESIDENT NUMAYRI TO ADEN. AT THAT TIME HE HAD NO IDEA NUMAYRI WAS PLANNING TO PROCEED ON TO SANA.

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COMMENT: LITERALLY ENTIRE TOP LEVEL OF YEMENI GOVERNMENT IS NOW ACCOMPANYING UAE PRESIDENT SHAIKH ZAYID ON HIS PROGRESS THROUGH THE COUNTRY AS GUEST OF YARG. THUS, WE ARE UNABLE TO LOCATE ANYONE IN SANA WHO CAN TELL US ANYTHING ABOUT WHEN AND WHERE AL-HAMDI WILL MEET WITH NUMAYRI. AS EMBASSY KHARTOUM CORRECTLY POINTS OUT, NUMAYRI HAS DONE AN EXCELLENT JOB IN CULTIVATING AL-HAMDI WHO, ACCORDING TO

RELAIBLE SOURCES HERE, HAS HIGH RESPECT AND ADMIRATION FOR HIS SUDANESE COLLEAGUE. IT IS QUITE POSSIBLE, THEREFORE, THAT AL-HAMDI MAY WELL HAVE AGREED TO JOIN NUMAYRI IN ADEN IN A COORDINATED EFFORT VIS-A-VIS THE PDRY, PARTICULARLY IF THIS IS VIEWED AGAINST THE BACKGROUND OF RECENT YARG EFFORTS TO STRENGTHEN ITS CONTACTS WITH SO-CALLED "MODERATE" ELEMENTS IN PDRY HEADED BY SALIM RUBAY'I ALI. RECENT VISIT OF FIDEL CASTRO TO PDRY MAY WELL ALSO UNDERSCORE URGENT NEED FOR MODERATE ARABS TO BEGIN TO DO SOMETHING MORE ACTIVIST WITH PDRY. MOREOVER, BOTH YARG AND SUDAN ARE DEEPLY CONCERNED BY WHAT THEY BELIEVE TO BE AN EMERGING SOVIET-BACKED ADEN/ADDIS ABABA AXIS. IN THIS LATTER CONNECTION, FOREIGN MINISTER ABDALLAH AL-ASNAJ YESTERDAY, MARCH 13, MADE A RATHER STRONG STATEMENT COMMENTING ON A RECENT ETHIOPIAN FOREIGN MINISTRY DECLARATION WHICH REPORTEDLY ATTACKED PRESIDENT NUMAYRI. AL-ASNAJ CRITICIZED THE DECLARATION WHICH HE SAID "DEMONSTRATES ONLY A SITUATION OF UNREST AND UNCLEAR VISITON ON THE PART OF ETHIOPIAN LEADERSHIP" BUT HE WENT ON TO AFFIRM THAT YEMEN WOULD CONTINUE ITS "CONCILIATING EFFORTS" BETWEEN CONCERNED PARTIES IN THE AREA INCLUDING "THE ERITREAN REBELS". GEMEN'S RELATIONS WITH ETHIOPIA HAVE OVER THE LAST YEAR BECOME INCREASINGLY STRAINED FOR STRICTLY BILATERAL REASONS. RECENTLY, HOWEVER, AL-HAMDI'S DESIRE TO SUPPORT NUMAYRI HAS ALSO BECOME ANOTHER FACTOR IN THE YEMENI-ETHIOPIAN EQUATION. WHETHER PDRY, RECENTLY DESCRIBED MENGISTU AS ETHIOPIA'S ONLY FRIEND IN THE AREA, WILL RESPOND TO NUMAYRI'S CURRENT VISIT OF PERSUASION REMAINS TO BE SEEN. FROM AN ARAB
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VIEWPONT ITS'S CERTAINLY WORTH A TRY BUT IT WON'T BE EASY.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CHIEFS OF STATE MEETINGS, CHIEF OF STATE VISITS
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Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 15-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Source: CORE
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Drafter: n/a
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Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
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Original Previous Classification: n/a
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Type: TE
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